

Europäisches Patentamt  
European Patent Office  
Office européen des brevets



(11) EP 0 660 391 A3

(12) EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:  
05.03.1997 Bulletin 1997/10

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup>: H01L 21/762, H01L 29/78,  
H01L 21/336

(43) Date of publication A2:  
28.06.1995 Bulletin 1995/26

(21) Application number: 94120114.7

(22) Date of filing: 19.12.1994

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
DE FR GB

(30) Priority: 20.12.1993 JP 320576/93

(71) Applicant: KABUSHIKI KAISHA TOSHIBA  
Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa-ken 210 (JP)

(72) Inventors:  
• Koike, Hidetoshi,  
c/o Intellectual Prop. Div.  
Minato-ku, Tokyo 105 (JP)  
• Ishimaru, Kazunari,  
c/o Intellectual Prop. Div.  
Minato-ku, Tokyo 105 (JP)

• Gojohbori, Hiroshi,  
c/o Intellectual Prop. Div.  
Minato-ku, Tokyo 105 (JP)  
• Matsuoka, Fumitomo,  
c/o Intellectual Prop. Div.  
Minato-ku, Tokyo 105 (JP)

(74) Representative: Lehn, Werner, Dipl.-Ing. et al  
Hoffmann, Eitle & Partner,  
Patentanwälte,  
Arabellastrasse 4  
81925 München (DE)

(54) Semiconductor device with a trench isolation region and method of manufacturing the same

(57) A semiconductor device comprises a semiconductor substrate (11) having a major surface, a trench device isolation region (30) having a trench (16) selectively formed to define at least one island region in the major surface of the semiconductor substrate (11) and a filler (18a) insulatively formed within the trench (16), an elongated gate electrode (20) insulatively formed over a central portion of the island region so that each of its both ends which are opposed to each other in the direction of its length overlaps the trench device isolation region (30), and source and drain regions formed within the island region on the both sides of the gate electrode (20). The surface of the trench device isolation region (30) is formed lower than the major surface of the semiconductor substrate (11). Those portions of the major surface of the semiconductor substrate (11) that are located under the gate electrode (20) at the boundary with the trench device isolation region (30) are rounded, and the radius of curvature of these portions of the major surface of the semiconductor substrate (11) is selected to be not less than 50 nm.

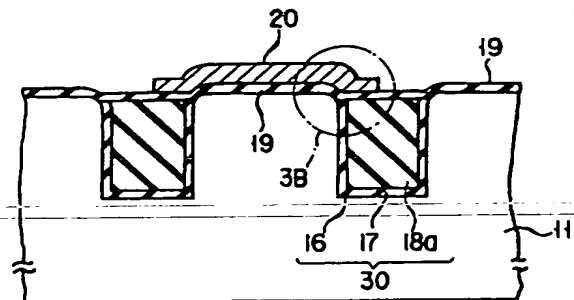


FIG. 3A

EP 0 660 391 A3



European Patent  
Office

# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 94 12 0114

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	EP 0 423 722 A (TOKYO SHIBAURA ELECTRIC CO) 24 April 1991 * column 1, line 5 - column 2, line 12; figures 4A-4D * * column 3, line 42 - column 5, line 5; figures 1A-2 *	3-5	H01L21/762 H01L29/78 H01L21/336
Y	---	7	
A		1,2,6,8	
X	JOURNAL OF THE ELECTROCHEMICAL SOCIETY, vol. 135, no. 3, March 1988, pages 726-730, XP000608770 YOICHI TAMAKI ET AL: "EVALUATION OF DISLOCATION GENERATION IN U-GROOVE ISOLATION" * page 726, right-hand column - page 727, left-hand column; figure 1C *	6,8	
Y	---	7	
A		1-5	
Y	US 4 923 821 A (NAMOSE ISAMU) 8 May 1990 * column 1, line 20 - column 2, line 8; figures 6A-7B * * column 3, line 48 - line 59 * * column 5, line 30 - line 64; figures 1,2A * * column 6, line 12 - line 59; figures 2D,10,11 * * column 7, line 10 - line 14 * * column 7, line 22 - line 29; figures 2E,2F * * column 8, line 24 - line 31 *	1,2	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) H01L
A	---	3,5,6,8	
	-/--		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 13 December 1996	Examiner Klopfenstein, P
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ..... &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 01.82 (P04C01)



European Patent  
Office

# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 94 12 0114

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
Y	IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON ELECTRON DEVICES, NEW YORK, NY, US, vol. 36, no. 6, June 1989, pages 1110-1116, XP000003453 KIKUYO OHE ET AL: "NARROW-WIDTH EFFECTS OF SHALLOW TRENCH-ISOLATED CMOS WITH N+-POLYSILICON GATE" * figures 2,6 *	1,2	
X	US 5 258 332 A (KEIJI HORIOKA ET AL.) 2 November 1993 * column 1, line 18 - line 23 * * column 2, line 1 - line 23 * * column 2, line 55 - column 3, line 7 * * column 4, line 16 - line 31 * * column 5, line 56 - column 6, line 12; figures 3A-3C * * column 7, line 30 - column 8, line 5; figures 6A-6F *	3-5	
A	---	1,2,6-8	
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 016, no. 200 (E-1201), 13 May 1992 & JP 04 030557 A (TOSHIBA CORP), 3 February 1992, * abstract *	3-5	
A	---	1,2,6-8	
X	JOURNAL OF THE ELECTROCHEMICAL SOCIETY, vol. 137, no. 6, 1 June 1990, pages 1942-1950, XP000132641 SIMON YU Y C ET AL: "PLANARIZED DEEP-TRENCH PROCESS FOR SELF-ALIGNED DOUBLE POLYSILICON BIPOLAR DEVICE ISOLATION" * page 1942, right-hand column - page 1943; figures 4A-4C *	3,5	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
A	---	1,4,6-8	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 13 December 1996	Examiner Klopfenstein, P
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document		T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons &: member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

EPF FORM 1503 (3.8.92) (Pw/CUI)



European Patent  
Office

# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 94 12 0114

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 012, no. 430 (E-682), 14 November 1988 & JP 63 166230 A (TOSHIBA CORP), 9 July 1988, * abstract * -----	1,3,4,6,7	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 13 December 1996	Examiner Klopfenstein, P
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

EPO FORM 1503 01.82 (P04C01)